



Department of the Environment

Water Resources and Growth

Implementation of HB 1141

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Water Management Administration





House Bill 1141 – Land Use – Local Government Planning

Topics to be discussed in this session:

- ✍ What is the problem?**
- ✍ What does this new legislation require?**
- ✍ What is Maryland's general water resources program?**
- ✍ How can local comprehensive planning help address today's pressing environmental concerns?**
- ✍ How can the State and local governments work together to ensure the best possible environment for our citizens?**





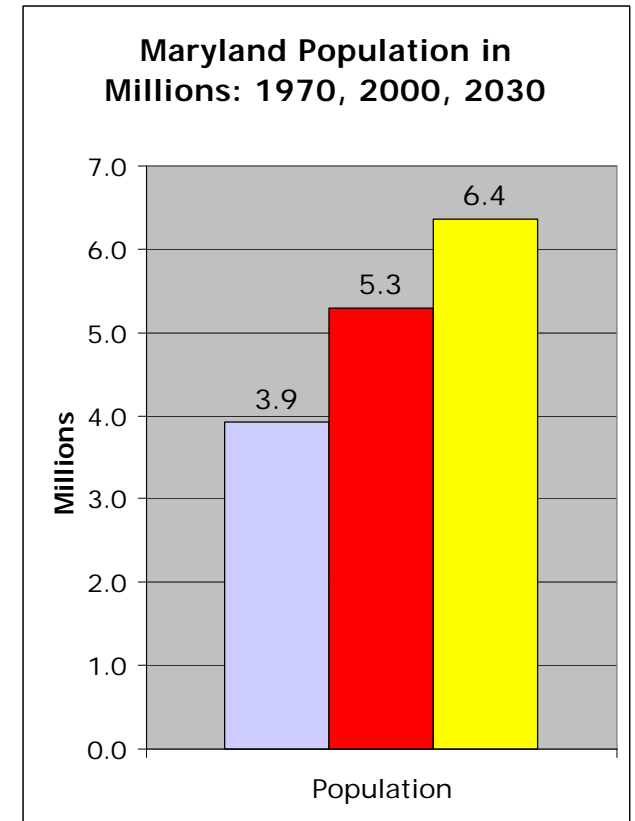
House Bill 1141 – Land Use – Local Government Planning

✍ **Maryland's population is projected to grow by 1.1 million over the next 25 years**

✍ **Many communities are already struggling to find adequate supplies of water to meet demand**

✍ **Significant pollutant reductions and loading caps are needed to meet water quality standards in many of our waterways**

✍ **Development pressure is increasing on wetlands and waterways**





House Bill 1141 – Land Use – Local Government Planning

✍ Passed in 2006 session by the MD Legislature and signed by Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.

✍ Requires expanded Sensitive Areas and new Water Resources elements be included in local government comprehensive plans


✍ Requires MDE and DNR review of expanded sensitive area element, including: wetlands, agricultural and forest resource protection or conservation areas

✍ Requires MDE review of the water resources element of local plans to determine consistency with the general water resources program required by Environment Article § 5-203





Environment Article § 5-203 – General Water Resources Program

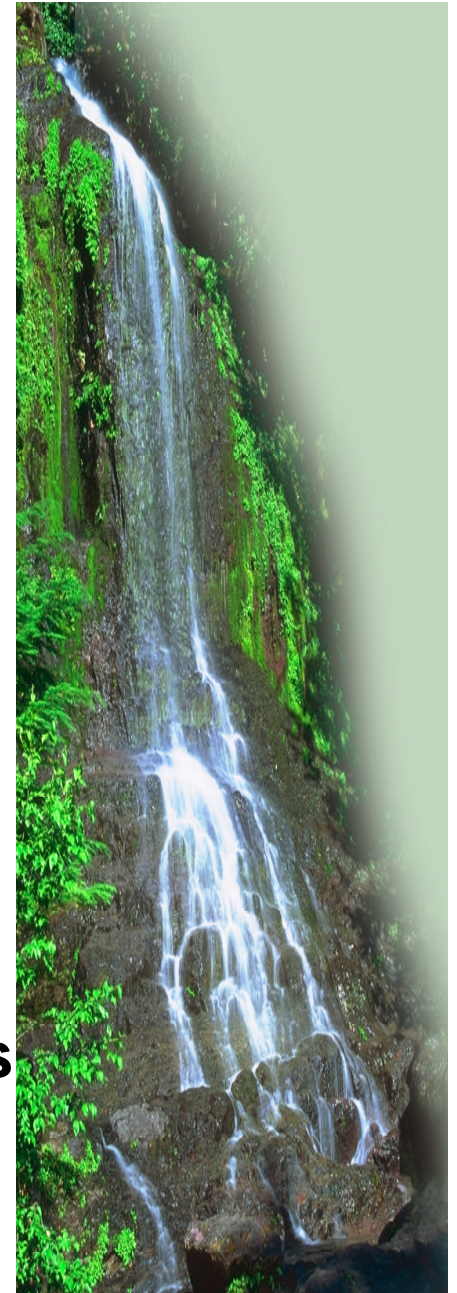
 **“The Department shall develop a general water resources program which contemplates proper conservation and development of the waters of the State, in a manner compatible with multiple purpose management on a watershed or aquifer basis, or any other appropriate geographical unit.”**





MD's General Water Resources Program

- ✍ **Water Quality Program**
 - Water quality standards and TMDLs
 - Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategies
 - Wastewater discharge permits
 - Erosion and sediment control
 - Stormwater management permits
- ✍ **Wetlands and Waterways Program**
- ✍ **Compliance Program**
- ✍ **Water Supply Program**
- ✍ **Water Infrastructure Program**
 - Water and Sewer Planning
 - Water and wastewater grants and loans
 - Bay Restoration Fund
 - Construction permits





Local comprehensive plans and the State's general water resources program

- ✍ Comprehensive plans are a local government responsibility**
 - State has responsibility to provide technical assistance, review and comment**

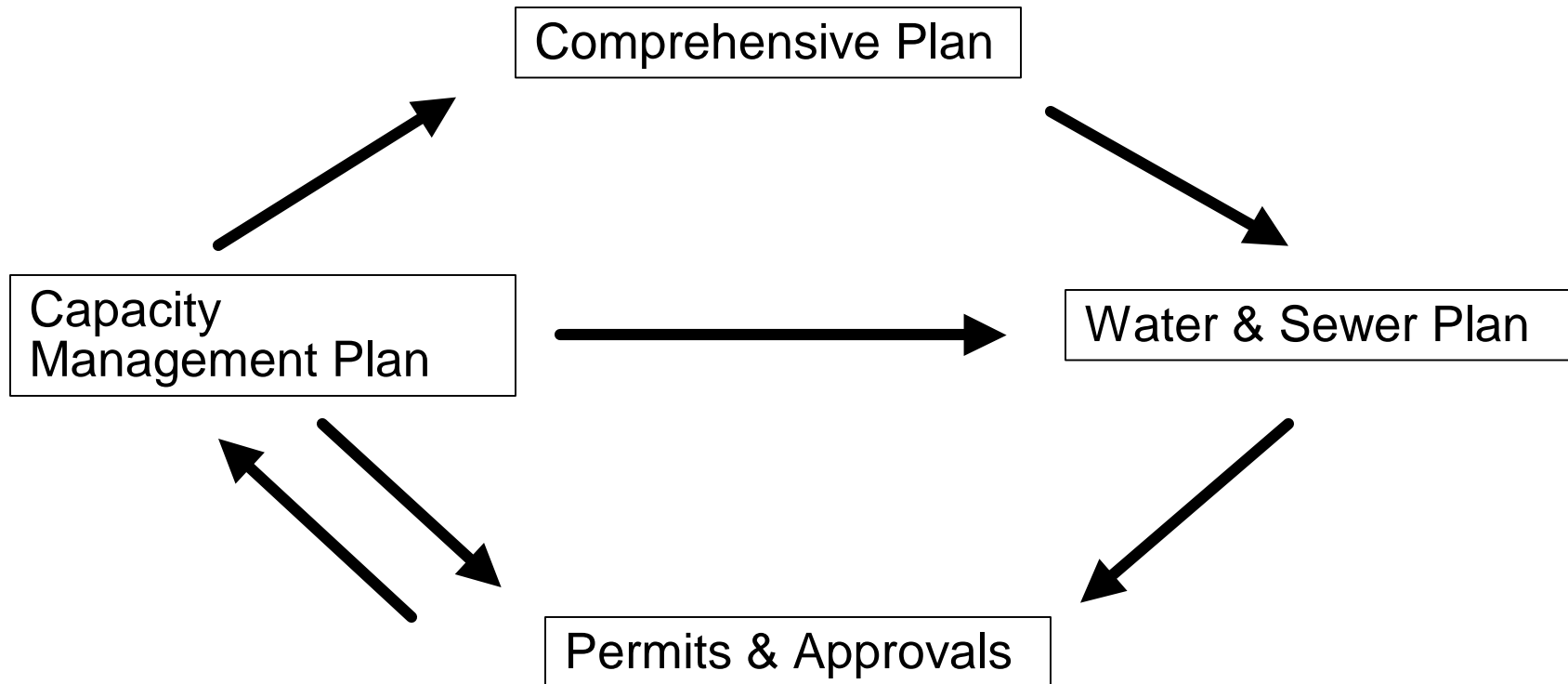
- ✍ The general water resources program and environmental permits are a State responsibility**
 - Local governments have delegated responsibilities under State law and may add local requirements in some cases**

- ✍ Neither State nor local government can do it alone**
 - ✍ We must work cooperatively together within our respective roles.**





Water Resources Planning Cycle



Water Appropriation
Facility Construction
Wetlands and Waterways

NPDES Discharge
Development Plat
Building Permit

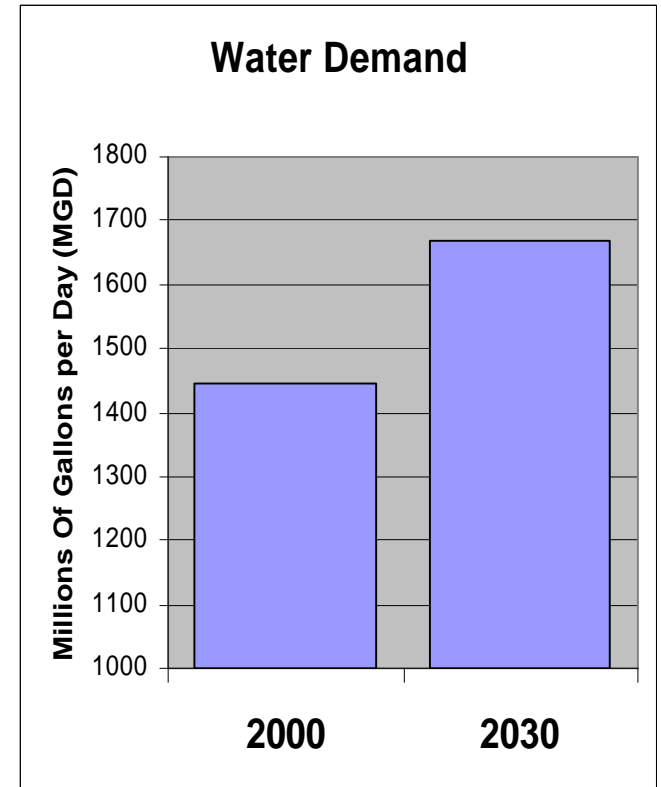




Local comprehensive plans and the State's general water resources program

 Water supplies in Maryland are facing increasing demand from a growing population

- By 2030, the demand for water supply is expected to increase from 1,447 million gallons per day (mgd) to 1,670 mgd an increase of 223 mgd
- Southern Maryland has the largest projected growth rate (30%), followed closely by the Upper Eastern Shore (23%).



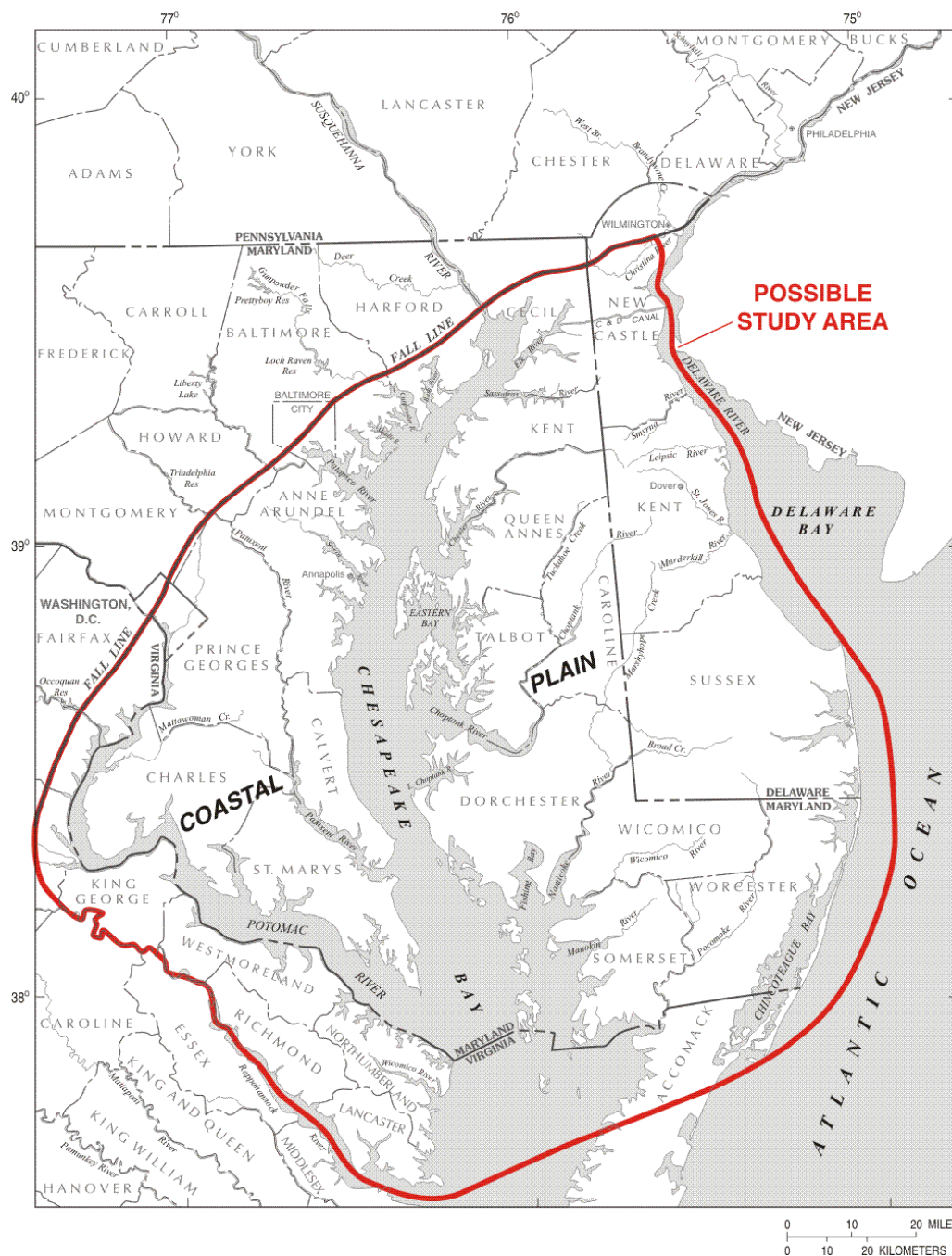


Local comprehensive plans and the State's general water resources program

✍ The Governor's Advisory Committee on the Management and Protection of the State's Water Resources has identified development of regional supply and demand studies for water supply as a top priority need.

✍ Regional analyses are needed for Western Maryland, the Potomac, Central Maryland, Southern Maryland and the Eastern Shore





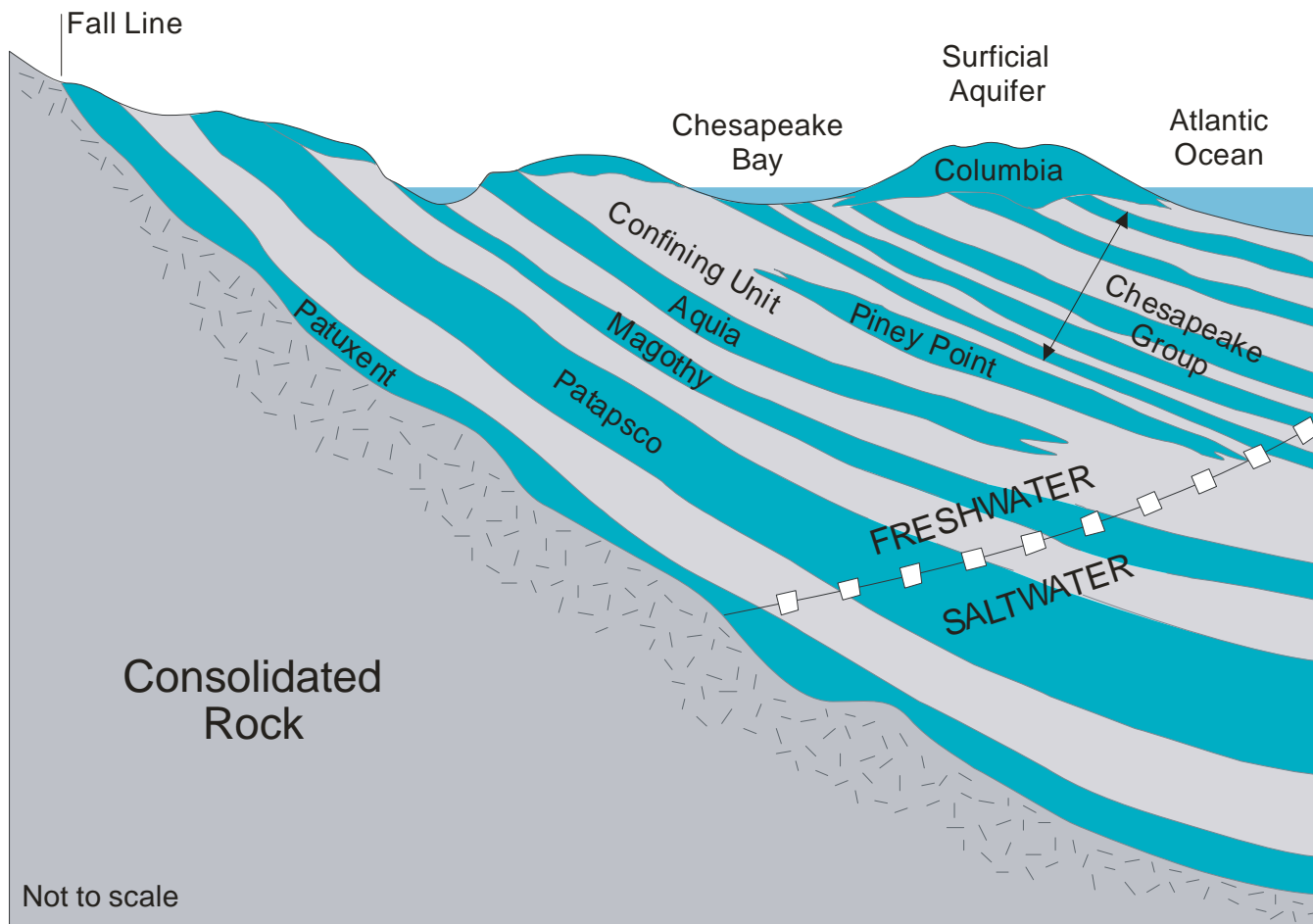
**Approximate
Extent of
Study Area**

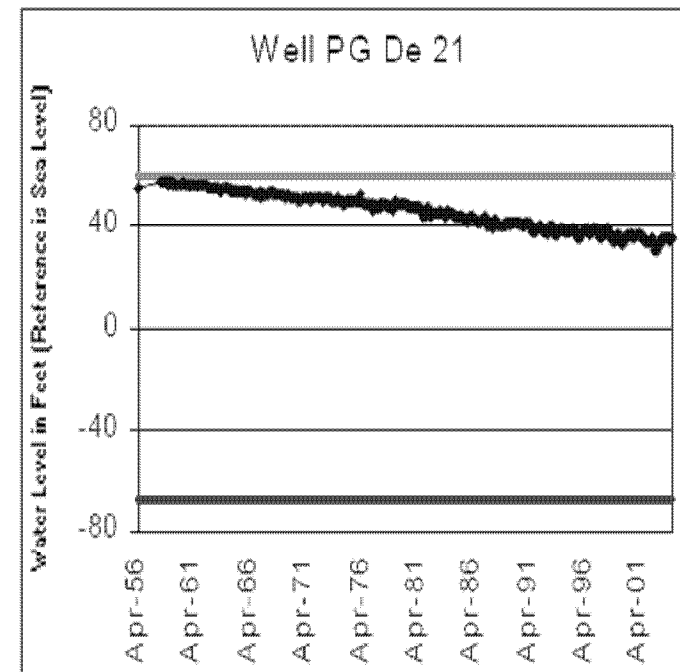
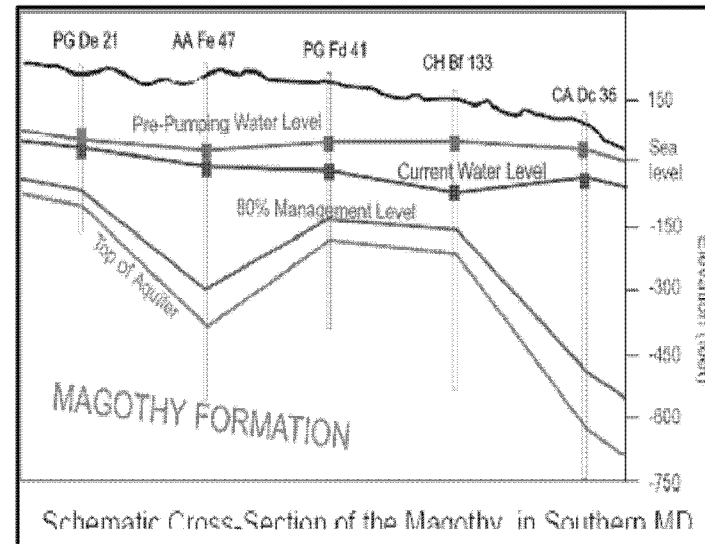
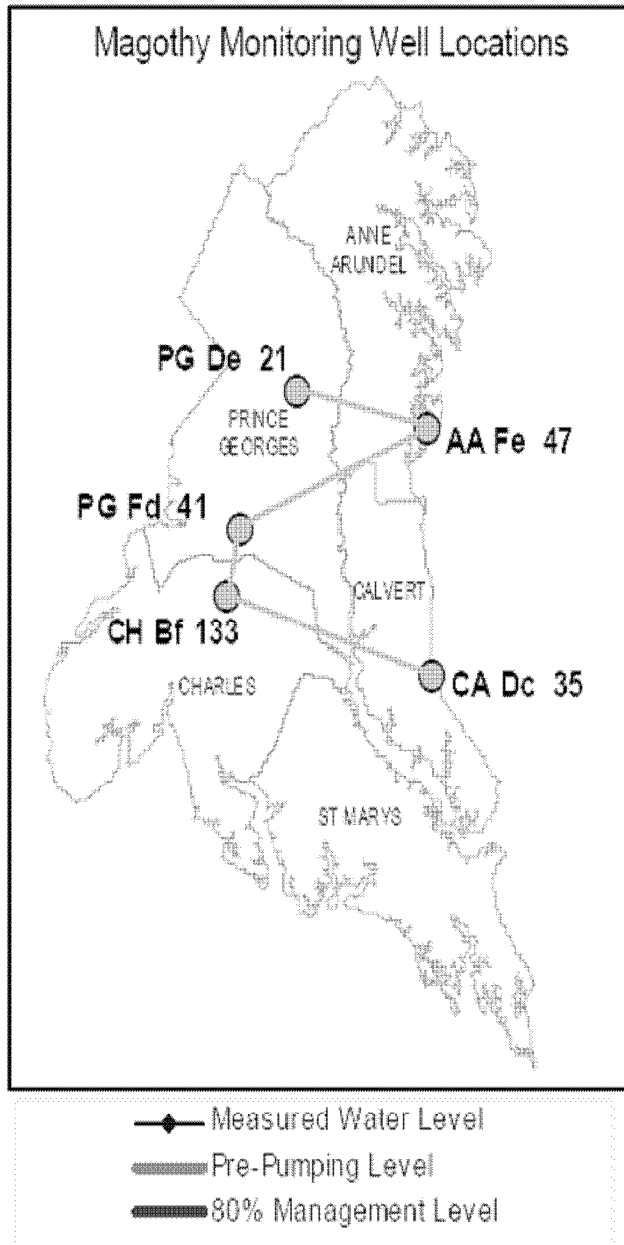
**Maryland
Coastal Plain
Aquifer
System
Study**





Maryland's Major Coastal Plain Aquifers






Water supply investigations

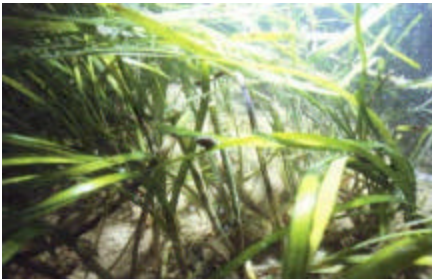




Local comprehensive plans and the State's general water resources program

 Many of Maryland's waterways are impaired and pollutant loadings must be reduced to acceptable levels and capped to prevent water quality standards violations

- Chesapeake Bay Nutrient loading caps are now mandatory for all significant wastewater facilities in the watershed.
- Other smaller sources need to achieve their loading caps as well if we are going to achieve water quality standards.
- Local growth plans must direct growth to areas where sufficient wastewater capacity exists to ensure that water quality goals can be achieved.





Local comprehensive plans and the State's general water resources program

- ✍ Planned densities and open space must include accommodation of stormwater management needs
- Environmentally sensitive design principles must be incorporated in every new development and redevelopment project
 - Stormwater utilities should be incorporated in local ordinances to ensure continued maintenance of stormwater controls.





State's general water resources program

✍ **Maryland's wetland resources are under increasing development pressure as much of the upland areas have already been developed and more people move closer to the water.**

- **Local comprehensive plans must incorporate wetlands and floodplain protection by ensuring that sufficient upland areas are available to support the densities envisioned in the plan.**





